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# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

10/806,680

Confirmation No.:

1158

Narain D. Arora et al.

Filing Date

March 22, 2004

Title

Measurement of Integrated Circuit Interconnect Process Parameters

Group Art Unit:

2825

Examiner

Sun J. Lin

Docket No.

700693,4026

Customer No.

34313

Commissioner for Patents Mail Stop Fee Amendment P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

# **RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed November 30, 2005, please amend the aboveidentified application as follows:

Amendments to the Drawings are reflected in the amendments to the drawings, which begins on page 2.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 11 of this paper.

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. §1.8a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Lois Jean Kimmerle

February 27, 2006

Date of Deposit

Applicant Appl. No. : Narain D. Arora, et al.

Appl. No. Examiner Docket No. : 10/806,680 : Sun J. Lin : 700693,4026

capacitance are determined separately" (emphasis added). The importance of this and the fact that Kunikiyo fails to disclose this feature is discussed above. Applicants respectfully submit that Chou fails to teach or suggest anything remotely similar to independent capacitance determinations. Therefore, Applicants submit that Claim 1 is patentable for the reasons given above for Claim 11.

Claims 2-9 are patentable by virtue of their dependence on Claim 1.

## New Claim

New Claim 31 depends from claim 11 and is therefore patentable for at least the reasons given for claim 11. Claim 31 is additionally patentable because Kunikiyo does not teach or suggest "determining the first capacitance and the second capacitance separately based on capacitance measurements of a single test structure." As discussed above, Kunikiyo does not even teach or suggest determining C<sub>up</sub> and C<sub>low</sub> separately, much less based on capacitance measurements of a single test structure. In fact, the measurement procedure of Kunikiyo requires capacitance measurements of two different test structures having different overlap lengths to determine C<sub>c</sub> and C<sub>v</sub> (see Kunikiyo, page 32, third paragraph).

### Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that Claim 20 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have rewritten claim 20 as claim 32 so that it includes all the limitations its base claim 11 had prior to amendment.

### Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments on the application, the Examiner should feel free to contact the undersigned via telephone.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee which may be required in connection with this Amendment to deposit account No. 15-0665.

Applicant Appl. No. Examiner Docket No. : Narain D. Arora, et al. : 10/806,680

10/806,680 Sun J. Lin 700693.4026

Respectfully submitted,
ORRICK, HERRINGTON & SUTCLIFFE LLP

Dated: 2/27/06

Fax: 949-567-6710

By: Egin and

Eugene Worley Reg. No. 47, 186

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